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SOURCE Borba, No 114, 1949

Although there were 4,719,870 illiterates in Yugoslavia when the Communists came to power, 144,077 of them had learned to read and write by the end of 1945, and over 500,000 in 1947.

In Serbia, where there were about 1,500,000 illiterates at the time of the liberation, over 210,000 persons learned to read and write in 1946. By the end of 1949 there will be only about 100,000 illiterates in Serbia, all of whom will qualify during the 1949/50 school year.

In Montenegro, where there were 44,725 illiterates before the liberation, 38,275 men and women had learned to read and write by the end of 1948, leaving only 6,450 illiterates, who will attend literacy courses this year.

Croatia, which had 236,663 illiterates before the liberation, now has only 66,663. By the end of 1949, illiteracy will be entirely eliminated in Croatia and in Montenegro.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, where there were 702,000 illiterates at the time of the liberation, 382,582 had learned to read and write by 1948. In Macedonia, 100,508 of the 265,236 illiterates have learned to read and write.

Since the beginning of this year, 8,777 illiterates in Croatia, 33,365 in Macedonia, and 18,648 in Serbia have learned to read and write.

In Slovenia, where illiteracy is lowest, the literacy campaign is very weak and poorly organized, although there is no objective reason why illiteracy should not have been eliminated long ago. At the time of the liberation there were 10,095 illiterates in Slovenia, only 3,644 of whom have learned to read and write, and illiteracy is not expected to be wiped out there this year. The contrast with the striking progress in backward Montenegro is striking.

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